

UTAH SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ANTI-VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL



1998* Annual Report to the Governor, Legislature, Judicial Council and CCJJ

December 16, 1998

*This is an update of the 1997-98 USAAV Annual Report. Beginning in 1999, the Council will present its annual report in May of each year. The Council's complete 1997-98 Annual Report may be accessed on the USAAV website at: <http://www.usaav.state.ut.us>.

The Mission of the Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-Violence Coordinating Council is to provide a unified voice for the establishment of a comprehensive strategy to combat substance abuse, illegal drug activity, and violence.

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The Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-Violence (USAAV) Coordinating Council's annual report is prepared pursuant to Utah Code §63-25a-203. The Council is composed of an executive body and four committees: Judiciary, Justice, Prevention and Treatment. USAAV is staffed by a full-time coordinator, who is an employee of the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ).

Introduction

Few Utahns are untouched by the destructive nature of substance abuse, illegal drug activity, and community violence. Drugs and violence destroy individuals, families, and communities, and an effective strategy must create a balance among prevention, treatment, and justice programs. It is the USAAV Council's premise that any discussion of drugs or violence must necessarily take the other into account -- *the strong correlation between drugs and violence is indisputable*. This correlation is the foundation for the following priorities and recommendations.

1998 USAAV Justice Summit

On August 24-25, 1998 the USAAV Council Justice Committee hosted its fifth annual summit: **Drug and Violence Issues in Utah - Solutions for the 21st Century**. Nearly 250 Utahns participated in discussion groups on ten critical topics, including: Alcohol, Tobacco and Youth; Better Interagency Communication; Drugs and Gangs in Rural Utah; Funding for Programs; Gang Violence; Methamphetamine Lab Clean Up; Recovering Costs of Drug Investigations; School Truancy; School Violence and Drugs; and Utah Drug Laws. Priorities and recommendations were generated on each discussion topic and will be incorporated into future USAAV reports.

USAAV Priorities and Recommendations for Action

Methamphetamine: Utah's #1 Threat

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Division of Substance Abuse Building Block request for \$250,000 to provide treatment for methamphetamine addicted youth and adults.
- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature continue to enact legislation that will strengthen the state's strategy to eradicate methamphetamine use, manufacturing, and the considerable health and safety hazards associated with this dangerous substance.
- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the implementation of a public education campaign regarding the dangers of methamphetamine use and production, including a strong emphasis on the relationship between methamphetamine use and violence.

Tobacco Settlement Funding

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature appropriate ongoing funding from the tobacco settlement for tobacco prevention and control programs; and that the remaining funding be utilized exclusively for health-related purposes, including an emphasis on alcohol and other drug prevention, treatment, and enforcement programs.

Drug Courts

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Division of Substance Abuse building block request for \$200,000 to provide ongoing funding for established adult Drug Courts in Salt Lake, Utah, and Uintah Counties.

Treatment for Youth and Adult Offenders

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Division of Youth Corrections building block request for \$895,000 to establish an intensive residential substance abuse treatment program for youth offenders.
- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Department of Corrections building block request for \$100,000 to treat offenders with substance abuse problems.

Domestic Violence

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Division of Child and Family Services building block request for \$500,000 for domestic violence shelters and other critical response programs administered through the DCFS, to ensure that domestic violence programs throughout the state are able to provide prompt services to adults and children in abusive situations.

Controlled Substance Prescription Database

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the Department of Commerce building block request for \$55,000 for a paraprofessional to assist in staffing the Controlled Substance Prescription Database program.

Early Intervention for Youth Alcohol/Drug Law Offenders

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the continuation of the study to determine the feasibility of requiring all youth who violate alcohol/other drug laws to obtain a problem assessment, with a particular emphasis upon identifying needed resources.

Youth Truancy

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature enact legislation that will expedite the adjudication of truant youth, increase parental and community involvement in truancy reduction, and clarify the elements of criminal compulsory education violations by parents.
- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature fund the State Office of Education building block request for \$500,000 for truancy intervention and prevention.

Driving Under the Influence

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature continue to explore additional sentencing alternatives for convicted DUI offenders, as well as creative funding options and funding oversight for DUI and other drug-related prevention, treatment, and enforcement programs.

Drug-Free Workplace

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Council for Crime Prevention Drug-Free Workplace Task Force continue its work to prepare legislation that will encourage and provide incentives for Utah employers to adopt a drug-free workplace policy.

Utah Prevention Master Plan

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Prevention Master Plan be completed and that the finalized plan be delivered to all state agency heads to be uniformly adopted and considered both in agency planning and in the development of budgetary priorities.

Ongoing Funding for Drug and Violence Programs

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the Utah Legislature maintain as ongoing funding the appropriations made for drug and violence programs from the 1997 cigarette tax increase revenues, and that the Legislature appropriate a greater portion of these tax revenues for drug and violence related prevention, treatment, and enforcement programs.

Drug-Endangered Children

- ◆ The USAAV Council recommends the establishment of a working group under the joint leadership of the Attorney General's Office and the USAAV Council, for the purpose of developing a "Drug-Endangered Children Initiative" for Utah that will address the necessary interagency collaboration and shared responsibilities for ensuring the safety and welfare of children who are affected by drug use and/or manufacturing in their homes.

FY 2000 Substance Abuse and Community Violence Building Block Requests

- ◆ In conjunction with past and present priorities, the USAAV Council recommends the 1999 Utah Legislature fund the following building block requests:
 - ❖ \$438,400 to the Department of Corrections to provide full funding for the Day Reporting Center in Davis County; and \$1,121,000 to fund Day Reporting Centers in Provo and West Valley City.
 - ❖ \$140,000 to the Department of Public Safety for criminologists for the State Crime Lab.
 - ❖ \$1,263,800 to the Department of Public Safety for 15 additional UHP troopers.
 - ❖ \$109,000 to the Department of Public Safety for the purchase of intoxilyzers.
 - ❖ \$750,000 to the State Office of Education to increase the at-risk flow through funds.

1998 Accomplishments

The following accomplishments are related to the priorities and recommendations set forth in the Council's 1997-98 Annual Report.

- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 130 - Controlled Substances Precursor Amendments**, which amends the Controlled Substances Precursor Act to add crystal iodine as a precursor and limits its sale and possession to two ounces or less (unless licensed as a regulated purchaser); and limits the possession of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine to 12 grams (unless licensed or excepted from licensure).
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 131 - Enforcement Authority for Drug Lab and Precursor Acts**, which provides specific authority to the Department of Public Safety to enforce the Controlled Substance Precursor Act and Clandestine Drug Lab Act, and appropriates \$200,000 for additional enforcement agents.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **S.B. 39 - Penalties for Sale of Tobacco to Youth**, which creates a civil penalty for licensees whose stores sell to underage youth, including administrative fines and suspension/revocation of the license to sell tobacco; requires renewal of the license to sell tobacco every three years; and prohibits sting operations at a single location more than four times per year, unless reasonable suspicion of violations is demonstrated.

- ◆ The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice awarded \$8,000 to the Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office in 1997 to establish a pilot gang witness/victim protection program. The funds are used to assist witnesses and victims of gang-related crimes with temporary assistance to ensure their safety and cooperation in prosecuting gang crimes. Program participants receive funds based upon their circumstances to relocate temporarily or permanently. The result has been a greater willingness on the part of witnesses and victims to assist prosecutors in obtaining convictions against gang members.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 10 - Driving Under the Influence - Conditional Licensing**, which establishes a no alcohol conditional license for persons with prior DUI convictions. The conditional license is for a period of two years following a first conviction and for a period of six years following a second or subsequent violation. It is a class B misdemeanor for anyone who has been issued a conditional license to drive after consuming any amount of alcohol.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 123 - Not a Drop Amendments**, which permits youth to obtain an alcohol/drug problem assessment and program services from any licensed and approved provider.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 137 - Children's Health Insurance Program**, which creates the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and establishes program benefits, including substance abuse services.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 404 - Use of Cigarette Tax**, which creates the "Cigarette Tax Restricted Account," and requires \$250,000 of the revenues generated by the 1997 cigarette tax increase be deposited annually into the account to be used by the Department of Health for a tobacco prevention and control media campaign targeted towards children.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature appropriated \$100,000 to the Division of Substance Abuse for the treatment of methamphetamine addicted youth and adults.
- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature appropriated \$150,000 to the Division of Child and Family Services for the treatment of child witnesses to domestic violence.

In conjunction with past USAAV priorities:

- ◆ The 1998 Utah Legislature passed **H.B. 31 - Sale of Tobacco Products**, which requires tobacco products to be sold in a direct, face-to-face exchange.

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**Learn more about the Utah Substance
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<http://www.usaav.state.ut.us>

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